

NOMURA

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Postoffice No. 3 of
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MINUTES OF CONVERSATION

June 26, 1952.

Admiral Kichisaburo NOMURA, Retired, called on me today at his request. He stayed for lunch, with Vice Admiral J. J. Clark, Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet; the timing of their visit was purely coincidental.

After lunch Admiral Nomura drew me aside to say that he had asked to call in order to convey the following:

He said that he is in touch with a considerable number of former Japanese naval officers and was authorized by them to say that they are all exceedingly happy and grateful regarding the transfer of United States naval craft to the Japanese authorities. Naturally they are interested in the evolution of the future Japanese naval establishment and he was prepared to say that the United States could depend on his Japanese friends for loyal and effective support. They all share American views regarding the Soviet Union, he said.

He and his friends are dubious regarding the strength of the present Japanese Government to suppress the growth of Communism in Japan. Some of the members of the Government are not alert, he believes, to the potential of the Japanese Communist but they are, in his opinion, well endowed with financial means and well organized. He feels there has been too much wishful thinking in Japanese circles on this subject. The same fact that the Communist organization is small in numbers in certain groups is just as misleading in Japan as it has been in other countries where a small tightly-knit organization has been found more effective than a larger and widely scattered group might be.

Handwritten signature of Robert Murphy

Murphy

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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy
- (2)(B) Methods/Sources
- (2)(G) Foreign Relations

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